

Public Hearing: December 13, 2004

F A C T S H E E T

TITLE: Resolution to Recognize the
Stevens Creek Floodprone Areas as Best
Available Information

SPONSOR: Public Works & Utilities

OPPONENTS: Unknown

OTHER DEPARTMENTS AFFECTED:
Building and Safety
Planning

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: For

APPLICANT: Public Works & Utilities

REASON FOR LEGISLATION:

To formally recognize the Stevens Creek Floodprone Areas as the best available information for local flood regulation purposes.

D I S C U S S I O N

This is a resolution to formally recognize the floodprone areas of Stevens Creek and its tributaries (see attached map) as the best available information for local regulatory purposes, in conformance with the Flood Standards for New Growth Areas adopted by the City Council on May 11, 2004. The Flood Standards include the regulation of floodprone areas “as determined by hydrologic and hydraulic studies completed by the City of Lincoln or other governmental agency, or other acceptable source as approved by the City where this is the best available information.”

Technical Study

The City, as a Cooperating Technical Partner with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), contracted with a consulting firm to develop revised floodplain mapping for Stevens Creek. This technical study was undertaken in conjunction with the Stevens Creek Watershed Basin Planning Study, which is a cooperative effort of the City and the Lower Platte South NRD. The technical floodplain study component has been completed, certified by a licensed engineer, and is being submitted to FEMA. The study has been completed in compliance with FEMA’s Guidelines and Specifications for Flood Hazard Mapping Partners (see attached Certification of Compliance).

Additional Floodprone Areas

Currently, there are 57 linear stream miles which have a FEMA-mapped floodplain. The detailed study provides flood hazard information (“floodprone areas”) for an additional 47 stream miles. This resolution indicates that the Stevens Creek floodprone areas will be utilized as the best available information in any circumstance where the floodprone areas are more restrictive than the FEMA floodplain, until such time as the revised FEMA floodplain map is finalized and adopted.

Public Information

The draft floodplain/floodprone area maps for Stevens Creek and its tributaries were made available for viewing throughout the year at four public open houses on June 23, September 13, September 28, and November 18, 2004. Approximately 4,000 notices were mailed for each meeting. In addition, the maps were made available at the monthly Advisory Committee meetings from June through October, and for small-group stakeholder meetings held on September 8-9, September 20-21, and October 12, 2004.

Conclusion

Finalization and adoption of the revised FEMA floodplain maps is anticipated to take anywhere from 1-2 years. In the meantime, it is appropriate for the community to utilize the best technical information regarding flood hazards along Stevens Creek and its tributaries to protect future homes and businesses and to insure that any development in the floodprone areas conforms with the Flood Standards for New Growth Areas.

POLICY OR PROGRAM CHANGE: No. This resolution conforms with the Flood Standards for New Growth Areas adopted by the City Council in May 2004.

COST OF TOTAL PROJECT: None.

FACT SHEET PREPARED BY: Nicole Fleck-Tooze, Special Project Administrator

REVIEWED BY: Allan Abbott, Director of Public Works/Utilities